

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 20-24 and 30-33 are currently pending. Claim 20 is independent. Claims 25-29 and 34-38 are hereby cancelled. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed, see, particularly, Fig. 3 and page 6. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 20-22, 24, 27, 30-35 and 37-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,731,904 to Judd (hereinafter, merely “Judd”) in view of European Patent Application No. 0 515,728 to Knapp (hereinafter, merely “Knapp”) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,880,695 to Brown (hereinafter, merely “Brown”).

Claim 20 recites, *inter alia*:

“An active reflector for use in indoor wireless data communication systems, comprising:

transceiving means for receiving signals from a first mobile terminal and for transmitting the received signals to a second mobile terminal in an omni-directional way for direct communication with high data rates between mobile terminals in an indoor environment;

....
wherein the active reflector does not comprise a baseband processing and does not influence the logical set-up of the indoor wireless data communication system; and further comprising one common antenna connected to the transceiving means and a local oscillator for controlling frequency division multiplexing of the signals transmitted and received via the common antenna.”(emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Judd relates to a modular repeater with a housing that has a pair of substantially 180 degree, oppositely facing surfaces. At least one antenna element is mounted to each of these surfaces for radiating energy in a direction opposite to that of the antenna element mounted to the other of these surfaces. An electronic circuit is mounted within the housing and operatively couples signals between at least one antenna element on each of the oppositely facing surfaces of the module housing.

As understood by Applicants, Knapp replaces cable interconnection for local area networks (LANs) by using wireless relay stations suitable for very high data rates by operating at high carrier frequencies where signal reflection and absorption by walls is total or requires undesirable high omnidirectional RF power transmissions. The LAN can be deployed without special installation requirements when operated with indoor transponders. In the preferred embodiment relay stations communicate with IR light beams, and wall and ceiling propagation blockage is overcome by low power RF structure couplers.

As understood by Applications, Brown relates to a repeater station having circularly polarized antennas. A diamond panel antenna and a panel antenna are positioned in back-to-back relationship. Each antenna is circularly polarized. The antennas use "tunnel

technology" for isolating the antennas. A dielectric board is inserted into a chassis and patch elements are connected to the dielectric board. The width of the boards is such that a "tunnel" is formed about the periphery thereof. Absorber material is then inserted into the tunnel around the boards. A radome is placed over the recess enclosing the boards and elements.

Applicants respectfully submit that Judd, Knapp and Brown, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest transceiving means for receiving signals from a first mobile terminal and for transmitting the received signals to a second mobile terminal in an omni-directional way for direct communication with high data rates between mobile terminals in an indoor environment, wherein the active reflector does not comprise a baseband processing and does not influence the logical set-up of the indoor wireless data communication system; and further comprising one common antenna connected to the transceiving means and a local oscillator for controlling the frequency division multiplexing of the signals transmitted and received via the common antenna; all as recited in claim 20.

In other words, amended independent claim 20 is directed to an active reflector having one common antenna connected to the transceiving means and a local oscillator for controlling the frequency division multiplexing of the signals transmitted and received via the common antenna. Although the feature of the common antenna was formerly recited in original dependent claim 6, and although U.S. Patent No. 5,570,354 to Simon (hereinafter, merely "Simon") was cited against claim 6 in the Office Action of March 25, 2004, it is submitted that Simon, even when combined with Judd, Knapp and Brown, does not suggest the limitation now recited in claim 20.

As understood by Applicants, Simon relates to a device for increasing the functional area of a system of digitally operating cordless telephones with a fixed station and

portable mobile stations connected via channels realized by means of time-multiplexing packages and several selectable transmitting frequencies in accordance with DECT (Digital European Cordless Telecommunications) Standards. A relay station (40) with a single antenna (71) is disclosed. However, relay station (40) merely performs base band processing (see column 3, lines 47-62) and transmits and receives signals on the basis of a time-multiplex transmission (see column 2, lines 42-44). This is quite different from frequency division multiplexing.

Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 20 is patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Claims 21-24 and 30-33 are dependent upon independent claim 20 discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

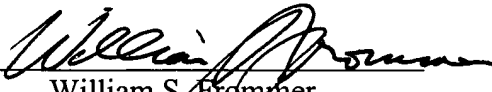
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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